AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 7 wherein the data identifying the user identifier is included in a sequence number field of the packet.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 7 wherein the data identifying the source identifier is included in an acknowledgement field of the packet.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the data in the acknowledgement field has a non-zero value.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~5~~ 7 wherein the transforming is performed using a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) algorithm.

7. (Currently Amended) A method ~~as claimed in claim 5~~ comprising:
   including data based on at least one of a user identifier and a source identifier in a header of a packet; and

   transforming at least one of the user identifier and source identifier to generate the data for inclusion in the header of the packet, wherein the data indicating the transformed user identifier is included in a sequence number field of the packet.

8. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 7 further comprising:
   appending a first key index to the transformed user identifier to generate the data for inclusion in the sequence number field of the packet.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the data indicating the transformed source identifier is included in ~~the~~ <u>an</u> acknowledgement field of the packet.

10. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 9 further comprising:

appending a second key index to the transformed source identifier to form the data for inclusion in the acknowledgement field of the packet.

11. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the data included in the acknowledgement field has a non-zero value.

12. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~5~~ <u>3</u> further comprising:

appending a key index to the transformed source identifier to generate the data for inclusion in the acknowledgement field of the packet.

13. (Currently Amended) A method ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ <u>comprising:</u>

<u>including data based on at least one of a user identifier and a source identifier in a header of a packet,</u> wherein at least one of the user identifier and source identifier has a non-zero value that is included in ~~the~~ <u>an</u> acknowledgement field of the header of the packet.

14. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ <u>7</u> wherein the user identifier indicates a user associated with a source node that initiates communication over a network with a destination node by transmitting the packet from the source node to the destination node.

15. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the user identifier comprises a user name of the user.

16. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~14~~ <u>7</u> wherein the user identifier indicates a source node that initiates communication over a network with a destination node by transmitting the packet from the source node to the destination node.

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17. (Original) A methods as claimed in claim 16 wherein the source identifier is based on a media access control (MAC) address of the source node.

18. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~17~~ 16 wherein the source node comprises a desktop computer, a laptop computer, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other device.

19. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 7 wherein the packet has a transfer control protocol / Internet protocol (TCP/IP) format.

20. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 7 wherein the packet is a synchronization (SYN) packet used to initiate communication between source and destination nodes in transfer control protocol / Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

21 – 83 (Cancelled)

84. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~83~~ 89 wherein the data identifying the user identifier is included in a sequence number field of the packet.

85. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~83~~ 89 wherein the data identifying the source identifier is included in an acknowledgement field of the packet.

86. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~83~~ 85 wherein the data in the acknowledgement field has a non-zero value.

87. (Cancelled)

88. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~87~~ 89 wherein the node transforms at least one of the user identifier and source identifier using a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) algorithm.

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89. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~as claimed in claim 87~~ <u>comprising a node for</u> <u>including data based on at least one of a user identifier and a source identifier in a header</u> <u>of a packet, wherein</u>

<u>the node transforms at least one of the user identifier and source identifier to</u> <u>generate the data for inclusion in the header of the packet; and</u>

~~wherein~~ the data indicating the transformed user identifier is included in a sequence number field of the packet.

90. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 89 wherein the node appends a first key index to the transformed user identifier to generate the data for inclusion in the sequence number field of the packet.

91. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 90 wherein the data indicating the transformed source identifier is included in ~~the~~ <u>an</u> acknowledgement field of the packet.

92. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 91 wherein the node appends a second key index to the transformed source identifier to form the data for inclusion in the acknowledgement field of the packet.

93. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~92~~ <u>91</u> wherein the data included in the acknowledgement field has a non-zero value.

94. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~87~~ <u>89</u> wherein the node appends a key index to the transformed source identifier to generate the data for inclusion in ~~the~~ <u>an</u> acknowledgement field of the packet.

95. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~as claimed in claim 83~~ <u>comprising a node for</u> <u>including data based on at least one of a user identifier and a source identifier in a header</u> <u>of a packet,</u> wherein at least one of the user identifier and source identifier has a non-zero value that is included in ~~the~~ <u>an</u> acknowledgement field of the header of the packet.

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96. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 83 89 wherein the user identifier indicates a user associated with a source node that initiates communication over a network with a destination node by transmitting the packet from the source node to the destination node.

97. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 96 wherein the user identifier comprises a user name of the user.

98. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 83 89 wherein the node identified by the source identifier is a source node that initiates communication over a network with a destination node by transmitting the packet from the source node to the destination node.

99. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in 98 wherein the source identifier is based on a media access control (MAC) address of the source node.

100. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 98 wherein the source node comprises a desktop computer, a laptop computer, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other computing device.

101. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 83 89 wherein the packet has a transfer control protocol / Internet protocol (PCP/IP) format.

102. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 83 89 wherein the packet is a synchronization (SYN) packet used to initiate communication between source and destination nodes in transfer control protocol / Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

103 – 128 (Cancelled)

129. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 128 131 wherein the data is extracted from a header of the packet.

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130. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~128~~ 131 wherein the packet is a synchronization (SYN) packet.

131. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~as claimed in claim 128~~ comprising:

> a node for extracting data based on at least one of a user identifier and a source identifier from a header of a packet, wherein the user identifier is derived from a user name of a user originating the packet.

132. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~128~~ 131 wherein the source identifier is derived from a media access control (MAC) address associated with a node originating the packet.

133. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~128~~ 131 wherein the data includes a transformed user identifier.

134. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 133 wherein the transformed user identifier is generated with a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) algorithm.

135. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~128~~ 131 wherein the data includes a transformed source identifier.

136. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 135 wherein the transformed source identifier is generated with a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) algorithm.

137. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~128~~ 131 wherein the data extracted from the packet further comprises at least one key index identifying a key.

138 – 154 (Cancelled)

155. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~153~~ 159 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to include data identifying the source identifier in an acknowledgement field of the packet.

156. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~153~~ 155 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to generate the data in the acknowledgement field with a non-zero value

157. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~153~~ 159 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to transform at least one of the user identifier and source identifier to generate the data for inclusion in the header of the packet.

158. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~153~~ 159 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to transform the user identifier using a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) algorithm.

159. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium ~~as claimed in claim 153~~ having a computer program executable by a computer device to include data based on at least one of a user identifier and a source identifier in a header of a packet, wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to include the transformed user identifier in a sequence number field of the packet.

160. (Original) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 159 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to append a first key index to the transformed user identifier to generate the data for inclusion in the sequence number field of the packet.

161. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 160 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to include the data indicating the transformed source identifier in ~~the~~ an acknowledgement field of the packet.

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162. (Original) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 161 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to append a second key index to the transformed source identifier to form the data for inclusion in the acknowledgement field of the packet.

163. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~162~~ 155 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to generate the data included in the acknowledgment field with a non-zero value.

164. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~163~~ 155 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to append a key index to the transformed source identifier to generate the data for inclusion in the acknowledgement field of the packet.

165. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~153~~ 155 wherein the computer program is executable by the computing device to generate at least one of the user identifier and source identifier with a non-zero value that is included in the acknowledgement field of the header of the packet.

166. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~153~~ 159 wherein the user identifier indicates a user associated with a source node comprising the computing device, that initiates communication over a network with a destination node by transmitting the packet from the source node to the destination node.

167. (Original) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 166 wherein the user identifier comprises a user name of the user.

168. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~166~~ 159 wherein the source identifier indicates a source node that initiates communication over a network with a destination node by transmitting the packet from the source node to the destination node.

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169. (Original) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 166 wherein the source identifier is based on a media access control (MAC) address of the source node.

170. (Original) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 166 wherein the source node comprises a desktop computer, a laptop computer, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other computing device.

171. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~153~~ 159 wherein the packet has a transfer control protocol / Internet protocol (TCP/IP) format.

172. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~153~~ 159 wherein the packet has a transfer synchronization (SYN) packet used to initiate communication between source and destination nodes in transfer control protocol / Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

173 – 198 (Cancelled)

199. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~198~~ 201 wherein the data is extracted from a header of the packet.

200. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~198~~ 201 wherein the packet is a synchronization (SYN) packet.

201. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium ~~as claimed in claim 198~~ having a computer program for extracting data based on at least one of a user identifier and a source identifier from a packet, wherein the user identifier is derived from a user name of a user originating the packet.

202. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~198~~ 201 wherein the source identifier is derived from a media access control (MAC) address associated with a node originating the packet.

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203. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~198~~ 201 wherein the data includes a transformed user identifier.

204. (Original) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 203 wherein the transformed user identifier is generated with a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) algorithm.

205. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim ~~198~~ 201 wherein the data includes a transformed source identifier.

206. (Original) A computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 205 wherein the transformed source identifier is generated with a cyclic redundancy check (CRC).

207. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium ~~as claimed in claim 198~~ having a computer program for extracting data based on at least one of a user identifier and a source identifier from a packet, wherein the data extracted from the packet further comprises at least one key index identifying a key.

208 – 222 (Cancelled)